

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 02009 151104Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O P 151040Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 119

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 2009

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EG IS

SUBJECT: US FLAG AT SFM BASE CAMP

REF: STATE 037523

1. I HAD ASSUMED THAT, AFTER GAMASY'S TURNDOWN OF THORNE'S SUGGESTION RE FLYING US FLAG OVER SFM BASE CAMP, ANY SUCH IDEA WAS DEAD. PARA 4 OF REFTEL SUGGESTS THIS MAY NOT BE THE CASE. IF THIS IS INDEED SO, DEPT SHOULD KNOW THAT FAHMY TOO STRONGLY OBJECTED TO IDEA OF US FLAG FLYING WHEN HE TALKED TO ME YESTERDAY ABOUT PUBLICITY FOR SFM. GAMASY HAD TOLD HIM ABOUT IT AND ALSO OF THE GENERAL'S TURNDOWN. FAHMY POINTEDLY NOTED SFM CAMP IS NOT AN AMERICAN BASE AND THERE SHOULD BE NO SUGGESTION THAT US CONSIDERS IT TO BE ONE. FLYING US FLAG IN SINAI WOULD BE GRIST FOR THE MILL OF ARAB CRITICS OF SADAT AND WOULD CAUSE POLITICAL PROBLEMS FOR GOE AT HOME AND ABROAD. SOME OTHER WAY NOT HAVING SOVEREIGNTY CONNOTATIONS SHOULD BE DEVISED TO IDENTIFY SFM POSITION.

2. AT THE TIME I ASSURED FAHMY THAT USG IS MINDFUL OF SINSITIVITY OF THIS ISSUE. IF PARA 4 REFTEL IS INTENDED TO SUGGEST THAT THE ISSUE IS STILL ALIVE, WE SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR A MAJOR POLITICAL ROW WITH GOE ON THE SUBJECT. THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT EGYPTIANS FROM SADAT ON DOWN WILL REACT VIGOROUSLY TO ANY SUCH SUGGESTION. I WOULD HOPE THAT WE ARE SINSIBLE ENOUGH NOT TO BROACH IT.

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 02009 151104Z

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC RELATIONS, TRACKING STATIONS, FLAG DISPLAY REGULATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** buchant0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 37523  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** buchant0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <06 OCT 2004 by buchant0>  
**Review Markings:**

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04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US FLAG AT SFM BASE CAMP  
**TAGS:** PFOR, EG, IS, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006